



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON
NATIONAL MONUMENT

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BOOKER T. WASHINGTON NM News Release

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“New Perspectives on the Early Life of Booker T. Washington”

Hardy, VA - On Saturday, February 11, 2012 from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., learn from volunteer historian John Whitfield “New Perspectives on the Early Life of Booker T. Washington.” Mr. Whitfield is a member of the recently formed Booker T. Washington Research Institute. His research over the past two years has focused primarily on the family relationships of Booker T. Washington during the time that he was a slave. Booker T. Washington was born on the Burroughs plantation, which is today Booker T. Washington National Monument.

Mr. Whitfield began his research in an attempt to provide a fuller picture of Dr. Washington’s life, more information than is provided in Washington’s autobiography, *Up From Slavery*. John has also conducted thorough research of Washington’s personal statements and letters. In this lecture, he will share new findings on the date of Booker T. Washington’s birth and parentage.

A reception will be held during the intermission of the lecture and the public is invited.

Booker T. Washington National Monument is one of 397 units of the National Park Service, the agency entrusted with the care of our nation’s natural and cultural treasures. The park is located 16 miles northeast of Rocky Mount, VA via VA 122; 25 miles southeast of Roanoke, VA via U.S. 220 and VA 122; and 45 miles southwest of Lynchburg, VA via U.S. 460 and VA 122. The park is open seven days a week from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Admission, parking, and all programs are free. Visit us on the web at: www.nps.gov/bowa.

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.